MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 OCTOBER 1982

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Statements -- After meeting with President Ronald Reagan at the White House, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in remarks broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio that the Lebanese people deeply appreciate and will never forget Reagan's efforts to end the suffering in Lebanon. He affirmed that Reagan's Middle East peace initiative has created unprecedented opportunities for peace and declared that U.S. friendship and assistance are vital for Lebanon, not only in peacekeeping and peacemaking but also in rebuilding Lebanon's Armed Forces. Meanwhile, in an interview with the Rome daily LA REPUBBLICA, Al-Jumayyil promised that Lebanon's relations with the Arab world will henceforth be more active, sincere and direct, ANSA reported.

Reaction to Al-Jumayyil's UN Speeches -- Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami said in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio that Al-Jumayyil's speeches at the United Nations clearly outlined the aspirations of the Lebanese people.

Although HA'ARETZ reported that Israeli diplomats in New York privately described Al-Jumayyil's UN General Assembly speech as "disappointing and ungrateful" toward Israel, an Israeli political source cited by Jerusalem television affirmed that there is no anger or disappointment in Jerusalem over the Lebanese leader's remarks because Al-Jumayyil is in a difficult situation and "under pressure."

Egypt's AL-AKHBAR said Al-Jumayyil's General Assembly speech dealt a "big blow" to the Israeli Government's strategy of imposing peace through coercion and terror, MENA reported.

Military, Security Situation -- A WAFA report cited by Monte Carlo radio claimed that Palestinian fedayeen killed one Israeli soldier and wounded three others in an 18 October operation behind Israeli lines in the south. In the Ash-Shuf mountains around 'Alayh, a Lebanese Army unit entered Kafr Matta while the IDF reinforced its positions elsewhere in the area, according to reports by the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio. The IDF spokesman in Lebanon said the Lebanese Army can deploy in the Druze villages, but the Israelis will ensure that the IDF presence overlaps that of the Lebanese, Jerusalem radio reported.

Israel

Knesset Meeting -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin ended the opening meeting of the Knesset winter session with an attack on Alignment positions and claims, according to excerpts of his speech carried by Jerusalem radio. Begin said there is no practical plan other than that of full autonomy as provided for in the Camp David accords. On the other hand, Alignment MK Yitzhaq Rabin asserted that there is no choice but to hold talks and sign an agreement on the border with Jordan, the radio reported. After the debates, the radio noted that the Knesset approved Israel's foreign and defense policy by 56 votes to 50.

Begin Interview -- In an interview with MA'ARIV, Prime Minister Begin said that because of his wife's poor health he may not be able to go to the United States in November and this problem would also influence his decision on serving as prime minister until the end of term in 1985. On Israel's political and security situation, he asserted that it has "never been so good."

Massacre Inquiry Commission Meets -- The commission of inquiry investigating the Beirut massacres met on 19 October, will begin questioning witnesses on the 20th and will ask the defense minister and chief of staff to testify next week, according to Jerusalem radio reports.

PLO

After meeting with Qatari leaders, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat flew to Saudi Arabia, according to Doha radio and SPA. While in Doha, 'Arafat said in a statement reported by AR-RAYAH that the PLO and Jordan have agreed to form a joint committee to follow up the issue of confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian state. Meanwhile, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir disclosed that Jordan is prepared to amnesty soldiers who deserted the Jordanian Army and joined the PLO, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Reacting to U.S. unwillingness to receive a PLO official among the Arab committee that will shortly meet with President Reagan, Arab League General Secretary Chedli Klibi regretted U.S. links with Israel and called on the Americans to adopt a neutral posture, TAP reported. In his statement, which was published by a Tunisian newspaper, Klibi said that although the Arab states are concerned with the Palestinian question, they cannot take the place of the PLO.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces thwarted an Iranian attempt to attack positions in the central battle sector, resulting in 163 Iranians killed, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed. Tehran radio reported that Iranian operations launched in the same area on 19 October succeeded in penetrating Iraqi lines and killing or wounding 270 Iraqi soldiers.

Pakistan

Afghan Plane Crash -- An Afghan Air Force MiG-17 crashed in Baluchistan on 18 October and the pilot's body was handed over to an Afghan consul by Pakistani officials, according to Karachi radio reports. The radio indicated that the pilot was "probably a defector."

Ziaul Haq Press Conference -- Speaking to a press conference at the end of his visit to the PRC, reported by AFP, President Ziaul Haq expressed appreciation for China's efforts to normalize relations with the USSR. He said that in his meetings with top PRC officials, identical views were expressed on the situations in Afghanistan and Kampuchea. Ziaul Haq announced that Pakistan and the PRC will establish a ministerial committee to develop economic, scientific and technological relations. He denied reports of PRC nuclear technology transfer to Pakistan and revealed that he will visit India on 1 November.

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KARMAL ADDRESSES COUNCIL ON SARANDOY ROLE

LD191026 Kabul in Pashto and Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] A meeting was held yesterday at the Revolutionary Council headquarters to discuss the contents of the Ninth PDPA Central Committee Plenum resolutions regarding the tasks of the party in strengthening political work in the sarandoy forces and to express the historical decision of the party Central Committee Secretariat in connection with the improvement of the performance of Interior Ministry organs and cadres. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, took part in the meeting.

Present at the meeting were members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretaries, heads of the party Central Committee departments, some members of the Revolutionary Council, a number of members of the Council of Ministers, representatives of the army and state information services, officials in charge of the the Justice and Defense Departments of the provincial party committees, sarandoy commanders of the provinces and Kabul city, commanders of the operational units, political heads and staff of sarandoy and those men who have displayed heroism in the hot fortresses of the defense of revolution.

Dr. Faruq, political chief of the Interior Ministry, opened the meeting by reading the working method and agenda and requested Babrak Karmal to inaugurate the meeting with his revolutionary statement.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Babrak Karmal, amidst waves of enthusiasm and love expressed by the audience, was warmly welcomed with the chanting of revolutionary slogans. He delivered an important speech, once again drawing the attention of the militant and brave sarandoy to their historical mission and to the heavy tasks entrusted to them in the homeland's present circumstances.

Expressing his happiness at participating in this party meeting, Babrak Karmal said: Gathered here today are very distinguished representatives of our new sarandoy who, bearing arms as a part of the Afghan Armed Forces, struggle confidently against the external and internal enemies of the homeland and defend the values of the April Revolution and the interests of our free people. I am completely confident that when you return to your units you will talk with your comrades about the tasks that the party sets before the sarandoy. Of course, you will not only talk but will implement and follow the instructions and duties of the party assigned to you today.

Comparing the new sarandoy with the police of the past despotic regimes, Babrak Karmal added: The new sarandoy of today have come from the masses; they are the part of the people and are at the service of the people. And they must be at the service of the people. At present the major part of the sarandoy consists of those youths who are very loyal to the revolution. They have come from the toiling families and they themselves have witnessed the brutalities and unlawfulness of the past police.

Babrak Karmal said: The very important fact is that the activities of the sarandoy of today is led by the PDPA. The party's guidance of the sarandoy guarantees victories. the PDPA, the party Central Committee and the DRA Government pay consistent attention to the improvement, development and strengthening of the sarandoy and to enhancing the combat capability and political maturity of the sarandoy.

Drawing the attention of the country's sarandoy to the tasks and obligations the party and government have placed on their shoulders, Babrak Karmal added: Maintaining peaceful and calm life and crushing counterrevolutionary elements in the country's vital important areas and defending the revolution are our very great and important duties. We believe that the sarandoy will continue in the future to enhance and increase their part in eliminating the counterrevolutionaries and raising their combat capability.

Babrak Karmal once again drew the attention of the officers, staff and troops of the sarandoy to strengthening party and military discipline, unity and solidarity and demanded that each of them set a good example in accepting discipline and loyalty to the ideals of the revolution and performing revolutionary tasks.

Babrak Karmal added: Tha sarandoy personnel work among the masses of the people. People judge all activities of the state to a large extent by the activities of the sarandoy. The sarandoy personnel must observe revolutionary legality in their work. Good behavior, endeavoring to help the people in turbulent conditions, resolutely defending them against the counterrevolution and subversive elements -- these are the areas in which the sarandoy personnel must make every effort and bend all their energy. Thus the sarandoy personnel will gain the respect and confidence of the toilers and will find reliable friends and comrades among them.

Concluding his statement, Babrak Karmal said: The PDPA Central Committee Politburo is completely confident that the sarandoy will further increase the (?military) struggle of its personnel and their ideological and political maturity, and will defend the stand of their revolutionary state everywhere.

Interior Minister Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy then spoke about the missions and tasks of the sarandoy in defending the April Revolution, struggling against the counterrevolutionary bands and maintaining security in the country. On behalf of the Interior Ministry, personnel are fighting with all their power and energy throughout the country to maintain security and to accomplish the tasks entrusted to them. Step by step, following the instructions and resolutions of the party and state, they defend the lofty ideals of the April Revolution.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that a number of sarandoy officers and men spoke in affirmation of Babrak Karmal's statement and expressed complete readiness to fulfill and implement all resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee Ninth Plenum and other party instructions.

In conclusion, a draft of the resolution drawn up by a plenary meeting of the Interior Ministry sarandoy party activists and a message of gratitude from the meeting participants to the party Central Committee were read. They were unanimously approved.

Finally, Babrak Karmal distributed medals to a number of brave officers, junior police ranks and troops who have displayed their heroism in crushing counterrevolutionary elements and wished them further successes in completely eliminating the enemies of the homeland.

BRIEFS

SARBOLAND RETURNS FROM USSR -- 'Abdolmajid Sarboland, deputy prime minister and deputy chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, who had led a delegation to the Uzbek SSR to attend the 11th AAPSO session, returned to Kabul today. He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by some members of the PDPA Central Committee and of the Council of Ministers and the deputy head of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT Oct 82 LD]

SIKH PARTY CALLS FOR 'HOLY WAR' TO BACK DEMANDS

BK200653 Hong Kong AFP in English 0620 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 20 (AFP) -- Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, today announced it would start a "dharmayudha" (holy war) to back their autonomy demands for their state Punjab in India's north, bordering Pakistan.

Harchand Singh Longowal, leader of a majority faction of the party, told newsmen in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar that he had asked his partymen and the Sikhs to assemble in Amritsar on November 4 to launch the "holy war."

The Sikh protest action plan was unfolded to newsmen after the leaders held a marathon night-long closed door meeting there following outbreaks of violence in the city on Monday which led to one Sikh being killed by police gunfire during a demonstration.

Last week five people died when police opened fire on a Sikh demonstration outside the New Delhi Parliament building.

The holy war call has complicated the situation and might result in a showdown between the Sikh leaders and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress-I party led administration in Punjab, observers said.

In the past the Sikhs had used the holy war call against the Moslem invaders. This was the first time in independent India that the call had been given, sources said.

They could not say what shape the holy war call would take, but they did not rule out the possibility of thousands of armed Sikhs assembling in Amritsar and other places.

Mr Longowal said the campaign by Sikhs to get themselves arrested and fill the jails would continue and preparations were under way for the next stage of the protest.

Meanwhile, the Sikh sources here said the holy war call should be first endorsed by the "Akal Takht" -- the supreme Sikh religious body which operates from Amritsar.

DELHI ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT ON MIRAGE-2000'S

BK181601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] India will start receiving the French Mirage-2000 aircraft in 1984. An agreement for procuring the aircraft was signed in New Delhi on Friday last and the Defense Ministry announced it today. The agreement brings to an end the 6-month-long negotiations that followed the conclusion of what it called the intention to proceed with the French firm. It involves the purchase of 40 Mirage aircraft.

The agreement also covers training of Indian technicians in the operation and maintenance of this high performance combat aircraft. A number of training aids, including a simulator, are also being acquired.

DEFENSE MINISTRY CRITICIZED OVER AIRCRAFT PROJECT

BK161552 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 9 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 8 (UNI) -- The Public Accounts Committee [PAC] has expressed distress over the manner in which the Defence Ministry had handled a project for manufacture of a modified Gnat aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

The ministry, according to the committee, did not take a comprehensive view of the project based on a clear perception of the requirements. The result was that not only did the cost of development of a Gnat MK-II go up from Rs 99 lakhs to Rs 320 lakhs, but there was a delay of seven years in the completion of the project.

Further, the committee noted in its 117th report presented to the Lok Sabha on Friday, even while the aircraft was in its development stage, the ministry placed bulk orders for the aircraft. It was clear that the air force authorities had no precise idea of the real nature of the development effort required. Decisions were taken in an ad hoc manner from time to time resulting in escalation in cost as well as in heavy time overrun. At least in the future, the ministry should pay greater attention to planning and execution of such developmental projects within a time-barred programme, the PAC felt.

The committee was also unhappy with the Defence Ministry for failing to take action against the persons responsible for the manufacture of defective cartridge cases for ammunition in an ordnance factory.

According to the committee, the government had to spend Rs 1.49 crore in repairing 64,614 of the 99,885 defective cartridges in addition to Rs 83.42 lakhs spent on import of 50,000 brass blanks.

The committee took exception to the Defence Ministry sitting over the report of the board of inquiry which looked into the case and asked it to complete the inquiry within three months and take action against those responsible for the costly lapse.

The government proposes to set up an organisation in the Defence Ministry for long-term perspective planning to meet requirements of the air force during the next 10 years. The government is also making all efforts to provide the indigenous aircraft and avionics industry with adequate opportunities for development projects, the PAC said in its report.

PAKISTANI NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY VIEWED

BK161630 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 6 Oct 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Pakistan and the Bomb"]

[Text] The chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr Homi Sethna, has voiced scepticism about the early possibility of Pakistan acquiring nuclear weapons capability. Speaking over the weekend he pointed out that although Pakistan has chosen the relatively direct enriched uranium route -- as distinct from the plutonium-based nuclear programme in India -- it has yet to master the technology of, first, producing sizable quantities of weapons grade fuel and, secondly, fabricating warheads. In his assessment, Pakistan also lacks the industrial infrastructure to be able to manufacture and deploy atomic arms.

Although Dr Sethna's remarks were made to a gathering of academics at Rajkot they are politically significant for two reasons: For the first time a person of Dr Sethna's position in India's atomic energy establishment has chosen to share his technical appraisal of the subject with the public. More importantly, his expressed views do not square with the widely held impression, at home and abroad, that Pakistan is on the brink of a breakthrough in the nuclear weapons field.

Most earlier accounts of Pakistan's nuclear ambitions have been from Western media and political sources. Prof Stephen Cohen, whose writings seemed to have prompted Dr Sethna's observations, has also dealt more with the political and military aspects than with the technical. Fuelled by Pakistan's unrelenting efforts, mostly clandestine, to set up an enrichment facility indigenously, their emphasis has been on intentions, rather than capabilities which Dr Sethna has now examined critically.

To the extent his views temper official thinking in Delhi, they may also indicate a more hard-nosed approach than hitherto to the problem of weapons proliferation in the sub-continent. Some quietus to the imminence of a Pakistani breakthrough in acquiring nuclear arms capability could be an element in cooling the atmosphere for the ongoing talks between India and Pakistan for an accommodation. Though slow moving, these discussions hold the key to peace and stability in the subcontinent.

PATRIOT SCORES PRC POLICY TOWARD REGION

BK181611 Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Oct 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Sino-Soviet Talks"]

[Text] The arrival in Beijing of a Soviet delegation, headed by a vice-minister, merely upgrades the level of recently-activated contacts between the two governments. Only a week ago Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev had reiterated the importance his government attaches to a "gradual improvement of relations with China." Moscow has always been willing to resume the Sino-Soviet dialogue which was disrupted at Beijing's insistance. It is true that of late vituperative Chinese propaganda against the Soviet Union has become less shrill than it was before the Taiwan disappointment and its criticism of certain aspects of the policy of the United States, its strategic ally, has become louder. All this, however, does not warrant undue optimism about an immediate and significant improvement in the present estranged relations between the People's Republic of China and the USSR.

Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua's speech at the United Nations General Assembly cautions us from jumping to hasty conclusions. In its essence, Mr. Huang has confirmed Beijing's return to the pernicious three-world theory propounded during the now-discredited Maoist period. Some Sinologists like to believe that the slight changes in China's verbal forays are indicative of more substantial reappraisal of its foreign policy. But those who are conversant with the sophistry of Chinese diplomacy see in this apparent shift in nuances a clever attempt to win respectability in the Third World with a view, ultimately, to disrupt its unity and to weaken the growing solidarity between the developing nonaligned countries and the socialist world by spreading confusion. The other day former U.S. President Richard Nixon declared that "we in the United States would welcome any initiative by China to reduce tensions with Moscow." But sooner, rather than later, it will become obvious that attempts to use the Sino-Soviet talks to subserve U.S. imperialism's global designs will end in failure.

There is, as yet, no evidence of any fundamental change in Chinese attitude towards its neighbours. This is amply demonstrated by Beijing's unabated machinations against Vietnam and the totally untenable assertion made by Hu Yaobang that "China does not occupy an inch of territory of any other country." We, in India, know that the statement is not true and Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are aware that the creation of the so-called "Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government" with active Chinese participation is a device to further Beijing's economic and political domination in the Indo-Chinese region and South-East Asia. The feeling of its neighbours towards China has been candidly expressed by President Tsedenbal of Mongolia who has accused Beijing of economic and political pressure, gross interference in internal affairs of other countries, military threats and armed intervention against neighbouring states.

The Chinese Government's preposterous insistence on withdrawal of Soviet support to Vietnam and Afghanistan as precondition for normalisation of relations with Moscow clearly demonstrates the convergence of U.S. and Chinese positions in regard to South-West and South-East Asia. The Soviet Union, obviously, will never give up its unflinching support to its allies and friends. Till date, Chinese attempts to give a face-lift to its foreign policy postures do not reflect a fundamental re-examination of its Sino-centred world view, it is merely a device to gain greater maneuverability in the conduct of its diplomacy for promoting its national-chauvinist ambitions.

IRANIAN CONTRIBUTION TO ITU FUNDS INCREASED

LD191126 Tehran IRNA in English 1003 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Nairobi, Oct 19 (IRNA) -- The Islamic Republic of Iran increases its financial share five times in the U.N. International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to compensate the U.S. contribution which that country threatened to suspend in case of the expulsion of the Zionist regime from the international organisation. Iranian delegate Seyyed Mostafa Safavi addressing the ITU conference said, it is expected that other member countries will also take necessary measures to compensate the U.S. share and to keep the human values up.

The United States three weeks ago withdrew from the International Atomic Energy Agency following the conference's vote to deny the Zionist regime's credentials. Iranian Majlis deputies in a letter announced early this week that Iran was ready to pay the sum equal to what is paid by the United States as its share of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Iranian representative to the ITU conference outlined crimes of the Zionist regime and condemned the U.S. for its equal responsibility for the crimes committed by them in Lebanon. The Iranian delegate said that the Resolution 120 which called for the expulsion of the Zionist regime was justified.

In reply to the U.S. threat Iranian delegate said that Islamic Republic and all other countries who believe in peace and attach importance to the right stand will strongly oppose any move which will impose U.S. domination upon the world opinion. He said we will not allow the rich to determine the fate of others.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES APPROVE IAEA CONTRIBUTION

LD192100 Tehran IRNA in English 1908 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Tehran, Oct, 19 IRNA -- A number of Majlis deputies today in a letter said that Iran was ready to cover the losses created by the discontinuation of the United States financial support for the International Atomic Energy Agency. Following the recent decision of members of the agency to expel the Zionist regime the U.S. Government decided to discontinue aid.

The letter which was read in the open session of the Majlis said that by such a measure, the U.S. Government once again proved its animosity towards the oppressed people and also made it clear to the world that all crimes and atrocities of the Zionist regime were taking place with knowledge and consent of the U.S..

While inviting the oppressed of the world to an all out struggle against domination of superpowers and the Zionist regime, the letter said that cancellation of the Zionist regime's membership in the International Atomic Energy Agency was a positive step in this direction.

In another part of the letter it was said that the revolutionary and Islamic Iran was willing in coordination with other progressive countries to pay the full amount formerly paid by the U.S. Government and thereby pave the way for ridding similar international organisations from domination of world devourers.

DPRK DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT 18 OCTOBER

LD191148 Tehran IRNA in English 1019 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, 18 Oct IRNA -- The high ranking DPRK delegation headed by Huang Chang-yop, the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, held its final round of talks this evening with Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In this meeting, the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK said: "We closely witnessed the commitment of the Iranian nation to the Islamic revolution and their devotion to reconstruction of their country." He said he was deeply touched by the anti-imperialist position of the Iranian people and government.

He then called for close cooperation between the non-aligned and developing countries and urged the convening of the South-South conference in order to discuss solutions for the economic problems of these countries.

Insisting on the change of venue of the next session of Interparliamentary Union to be held in Seoul, South Korea, Hwang Chang-yop asked the Islamic Republic Government to assist the DPRK in that respect. Hwang Chang-yop also called for further parliamentary relations between Iran and the DPRK, and said that exchange of parliamentary delegations would play a positive role in expanding bilateral ties.

The Iranian Majlis speaker, in response, reaffirming the political-social growth of the Iranian nation after the culmination of the revolution, said the anti-U.S. imperialism slogans of this nation were based on their social and cultural knowledge.

Replying to his counterpart's suggestion concerning the change of venue of the next session of the Interparliamentary Union and the convening of the South-South conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani urged the creation of a non-aligned monetary fund to protect the economically deprived nations. He then called for further cooperations between independence and revolutionary countries in diplomatic, economic and military fields. "We should confront the expansionism of the superpowers through our close cooperation," he said.

The precise method for economic and commercial expansion of mutual relations was supposed to be maintained in the near future.

Huang Chang-yop also met and conferred with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i here today.

In this meeting, also attended by a number of Korean and Iranian diplomatic and economic officials, talks were held on economic and political cooperation between the two countries in confronting imperialist plots.

Delegation Departs

LD191130 Tehran IRNA in English 1009 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 19 (IRNA) -- The Democratic People's Republic of Korea mission headed by that country's parliament speaker, Hwang Chang-Yop, which had been in Tehran for the last three days, left Tehran this morning for Pyongyang.

The mission was seen off at the airport by Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and a score of other Foreign Ministry officials.

Prior to his departure, Hwang Chang-yop said, despite the great geographical distance between the two countries, his people attach great importance to the Islamic revolution of Iran and Imam Khomeyni. He added the U.S. imperialism hatched many plots to crush the Islamic revolution of Iran and Imam Khomeyni, which were thwarted by Iranians who very well maintained their independence.

He said this trip showed him that the Iranian nation was progressing with great perseverance, and that the two countries had common viewpoints for the expansion of bilateral relations. In conclusion, he thanked the Iranian nation for their hospitality.

The Majlis speaker, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said the DPRK mission's trip to Iran was in response to his visit to that country last year.

He said the non-aligned countries' vital responsibilities towards the world oppressions, and the bilateral relations were discussed during the visit of the DPRK delegation. He concluded by saying that the trip of the mission to Iran was a step ahead for the development of the bilateral relations, and it will also pave the way for more cooperation among the independent countries in international organisations, which are of great importance.

TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

LD191108 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 19 (IRNA) -- A Turkish mission led by Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen arrived here this morning and was welcomed by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati and other officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Speaking to IRNA the Turkish foreign minister said the objective of his visit was the expansion of bilateral ties between Iran and Turkey.

Turkmen, [who] arrived here at the invitation of Dr Velayati, said that Iran and Turkey have been enjoying cordial relations in various fields for the last two years and added that the reciprocal ties will now be strengthened more.

Meets With Musavi

LD192050 Tehran IRNA in English 1951 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 19, IRNA -- Prime Minister Musavi this evening stressed the expansion of economic relations between the two nations of Iran and Turkey and the utilisation of trade facilities of the regional countries for thwarting the conspiracies of superpowers.

Speaking in a meeting with the Turkish foreign minister, Ilter Turkmen, here, the prime minister also emphasized further unity of Muslims.

He also mentioned the policy of 'Neither West nor East' of the Islamic Republic and reminded the necessity of non-interference of big powers in the region.

The Turkish foreign minister arrived here today at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart, Dr. Velayati, for an official visit aimed at expanding bilateral ties between the two countries.

Meets With Velayati

GF191918 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 19, IRNA -- Dr. Velayati and his Turkish counterpart, Ilter Turkmen, held talks this afternoon in a meeting attended by a number of other Iranian and Turkish officials to discuss the two countries economic, political and trade relations.

The Iranian foreign minister said after the meeting that Turkmen, who arrived here this morning, had made this trip to follow up talks held previously, and with concern to the political relations between the Islamic Republic and Turkey.

He added that trade between the two countries stood at about two billion dollars, with Turkey providing meat, eggs, sugar and some agricultural machinery to Iran for the purchase of oil.

During his stay in the Islamic Republic the Turkish foreign minister will sign a revised air transportation agreement with the Islamic Republic, Velayati said.

NVOI ASSAILS COUNTRY'S TIES WITH TURKEY

TA181202 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary: "America's Associates Cannot Be the Friends of Revolutionary Iran"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: All of us are aware that after the dismissal of the Bani-Sadrs, the Amir-Entezams and the Qotbzadehs the Islamic government adopted positive measures with regard to foreign policy. But at the same time it is also a fact that certain individuals in our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who are under the impact of the intimations of the liberals, the superficials and mental prejudice, continue to pursue the same course that at one time was being pursued by the compromising liberals in recognizing friends and foes.

Apart from the fact that no step is being taken to establish normal relations with many independent and anti-imperialist countries, projecting revolutionary Iran's enemies as its friends is also one of the masterpieces of this group of officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The people can under no circumstances accept the claim by some high-ranking officials of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs that, for example, the regimes of Turkey and Pakistan are the backers and supporters of revolutionary Iran in the international diplomatic arena for, particularly following the revolution, the people are observing through their own experience that the leaders of these two coupist regimes, which are American to the marrow, have had a hostile stance toward revolutionary and anti-imperialist Iran.

The fact that even now America enjoys a vast military presence in Turkey and that Turkish authorities have allowed the Pentagon to establish a command center in eastern Turkey for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force is itself an indication of the Turkish regime's hostility toward revolutionary Iran, for the purpose of stationing the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force on Turkish soil is above all to threaten the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iran's revolution as well as the Persian Gulf's oil-producing region. Even the Americans themselves are not denying this.

On the other hand, the Turkish regime, which some people in our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs want to project as the friend of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has transformed Turkey into a base for the counterrevolutionaries and fugitive dregs of the former regime, both military and nonmilitary, the reins of all of whom are in the hands of the U.S. CIA.

According to the NEW YORK TIMES the U.S. CIA has assumed the expenses of the Iranian fugitive groups who are in Turkey. This U.S. newspaper reports on Iranian military groups on Turkish soil, one under the command of former Admiral Madani, the other under the command of former General Bahram Aryana. The NEW YORK TIMES estimates the number of these two groups of Iranian fugitive bands stationed in Turkey to be between 8,000 to 10,000. Regarding the satanic aims of world-devouring America in accepting the expenses of these bands, the NEW YORK TIMES writes: At present this aid is not for overthrowing the Khomeyni regime or creating disturbances in it but is used to collect information so that later Washington, by forging unity among the opponents of Khomeyni's regime abroad, will consolidate its position when there is a change of regime.

Yes, world-devouring America has concentrated a large number of monarchists and fugitive officers of the former Imperial Army and other dregs of the former regime in special camps on Turkish soil, and is training and equipping them with the knowledge and permission of Turkey's coup regime. These are issues whose reports have been disseminated throughout the entire world.

Amid such conditions it is amazing that there are certain individuals, even among our Islamic Republic's high-ranking officials, who strive by every means to distort the facts, to divert public opinion and to project enemies as friends.

For example, the under secretary in charge of legal and parliamentary affairs at our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs says: There is doubt in regard to Turkey being a base for the counterrevolution. At the outset of the revolution's victory the counterrevolution may have had some activity around the town of Van in Turkey, but on the basis of reliable information that has reached us these activities have halted and the Turkish Government has not given them permission to engage in activity on Turkish soil against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Indeed, who is not aware that the frontier between our country and Turkey, the same as the Pakistani-Iranian border, is the only route for the transfer of the counterrevolution from abroad into our country, and that Turkey's American regime, on orders from the U.S CIA, is bending over backwards in helping the Iranian counterrevolutionaries in that country.

It is difficult to believe that the responsible officials in our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs really have no information in this connection. The fact is that a very unhealthy trend has become dominant in our governmental organizations toward which the people cannot be indifferent. The people recognize their friends and enemies. Those who still tread the dead end path of the Qotbzadehs, the Bani-Sadrs, the Yazdis and the Amir-Entezams must not forget the tragic end of their predecessors.

PRC AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES EXPANSION OF RELATIONS

GF171631 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 17, IRNA -- A trip of a Chinese delegation to Iran, and expansion of mutual exchanges between Iran and China were discussed today in a meeting between the ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Tehran, Mr. Zhuang Yan, and the foreign commerce deputy of the Commerce Ministry here.

Mr. Zhuang announced during the meeting readiness of his country in fulfilling Iran's economic needs.

The Chinese ambassador expressed hope that the exchange of economic delegations between Iran and China would expand relations between the two countries.

ARAB COMMITTEE VISIT TO WASHINGTON ASSAILED

GF191144 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The race to Washington has not yet ended. After Al-Jumayyil's visit, the seven-member committee emerging from the Fes summit will visit next. After that, Mubarak will make many visits. The question is: When will this race end and when will the Arabs stop their travels to Washington?

What is very strange about this race is that the blood shed by the terrorist band on Washington's orders is still wet and oppression and terrorism still continue in Beirut. We are watching this race now. Haven't we had enough from Washington? Don't those who race have enough dignity to refuse U.S. oppression?

The United States is accustomed to killing Muslims and destroying their cities and homes and the reactionary rulers are used to bowing to U.S. policy. The United States kills children, women and old people and those rulers are still begging Washington and going to the White House like sincere soldiers.

Reagan sees himself above sitting at a table that includes a representative of the Palestinian people. The rulers accept this insult and say to the PLO representative: It is better not to spoil our relations with Washington by insisting on this matter.

By doing so, those rulers forget that the U.S. insult is not only directed at the Palestinian people, but it is also directed at all Muslims and Arabs because it is ignorance of a right and ignorance of a people demanding their rights.

Without these reactionary rulers, Reagan and others could have not followed this policy that ignores Palestinian rights. The first way to Palestine is to defeat this U.S. arrogance and the return of Arab rulers to dignity and honor by refusing to go to Washington without a Palestinian representative. They should say to Reagan that it is time to stop ignoring this people who struggled and sacrificed for over 30 years and that it is time to stop arrogance and oppression. This is the way to liberation.

Hence, instead of the visits, there should be a comprehensive confrontation with the U.S. Administration -- a confrontation that presents the administration with a fait accompli, a comprehensive confrontation that forces it to recognize the Palestinian rights. What would happen to the Arab rulers if they halted oil supplies to U.S. factories? Will they die of thirst? What will happen if they withdraw their assets from the U.S. banks? Will they die of hunger? No.

If they do that, they will live in dignity and honor and will force U.S. policy to surrender to the fait accompli. Thus, they can present their enemy with one of two options: either recognize the right or remain in the siege.

KHAMENE'I RECEIVES MILITARY COMMANDERS 19 OCTOBER

GF191912 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 19, IRNA -- President Khamene'i this morning received commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces, Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi and commander of the Ground Forces Officers Academy, Colonel Salehi.

During the meeting the ground forces commander presented a detailed report on the situation of the Iraqi imposed war fronts and a plan concerning training programmes in the officers academy.

The president of the Islamic Republic gave necessary guidelines.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,084

LD191754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,084 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Combatants of Islam, who have learned lessons from the uprising of Husayn ibn 'Ali for the establishment of the reign of God, relentlessly are fighting against the enemies of Islam and those who wage war against God. The combatants of Islam will continue their fight at full strength against symbols of blasphemy until the enemy's total surrender.

In the last 24 hours, our powerful forces have opened fire on the enemy's infantry, artillery, tank and mortar-launching positions, inflicting losses and damage. Our powerful forces continued to maintain their superior firepower and held the initiative.

On the country's western fronts, our combat units consolidated their own positions and continued to improve the situation. With artillery fire, they destroyed two tanks and vehicles of the Saddamists and killed several of them.

On 17 October at 2200, the enemy launched a desperate attack in the Nowsud sector. However, with the vigilance of our forces, the enemy's efforts were in vain and it was forced to retreat at midnight after suffering losses and damage.

Fire exchange continued in the country's southern operational sector. The powerful combatants of Islam prevented movements and activities by the Saddamist forces, destroyed several of their trenches and foxholes on the other side of the Arvand Rud and annihilated three enemy observation posts. One enemy fuel tank also was set ablaze.

Abadan yesterday came under heavy and long-range artillery fire from the criminal Saddamists. As a result, part of a hospital and three stores were demolished and several areas of the city were set on fire. Four of our compatriots were wounded.

During the 17 October operations, three combatants of the Ground Forces and two warriors of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran gained the honor of martyrdom. May God bless the martyrs.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

COMBATANTS LAUNCH OPERATIONS INSIDE IRAQ

LD191708 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced: Today, the 1st of Muharram, the month of epic, victory and the month of victory of blood against sword, the victorious Islamic combatants in the Meymak sector, comprising the brave warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing warriors of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the devotees of the Mobilization forces of the Guards Corps, launched a series of penetrating operations inside Iraqi territory at 0600 today, attacking the criminal enemy and inflicting heavy losses and damages on him.

During these victorious operations the followers of Aba 'Abdallah al-Husayn [the third Shi'a imam who was martyred in Muharram] succeeded in killing or wounding more than 270 enemy troops. Also during these operations 2 ammunition depots, more than 35 trenches and foxholes and 3 emplacements for the enemy's medium-weight weapons were destroyed.

TEHRAN REPORTS 'LIBERATION' OF MIRABAD REGION

LD191710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Last night, in a series of successful operations, the fighters of Islam liberated the Mirabad region, which is situated 3 km east of (Alwatan). According to an IRNA report quoting the joint command of Hamzeh Seyyed as-Shohada base, this region was liberated after the liberation of the sensitive and strategic (Alwatan) heights. According to the same report, this region is one of the important training centers of the counterrevolutionaries and one of the major centers for the importation of smuggled goods.

12 OCTOBER NVOI COMMENTARIES EXAMINE MASS MEDIA

TA122013 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 12 October carries two commentaries.

The first commentary, entitled "Cut Off the Hands of the Journalistic Keshmiris From the Mass Media," says: The situation that has arisen in our homeland's mass media rightly has aroused the concern of the people and all followers of the imam's and the revolution's genuine line. It repeatedly has been observed that, during sensitive situations and instances for our revolution and Islamic Republic, certain hands, in accordance with a specific plan, exerted all their efforts to divert public opinion from the main danger that threatens Iran and the revolution.

Regrettable is that not only are the government and some of the responsible officials indifferent and silent toward these endeavors by the journalistic Keshmiris, but despite the explicit principles of the Constitution, the imam's guidelines, the prosecutor general's 10-point statement and the recommendations of the country's high-ranking officials, they have banned all newspapers that report the truth and support the revolution -- newspapers which from the very outset of the revolution and despite all restrictions and difficulties exerted all their efforts to exposing the plots of the counterrevolution, world-devouring America, the dregs of the former regime, the liberals and a wide spectrum of the opponents of the imam's and the revolution's genuine line. The result is that activity in the mass media today is the monopoly of a specific group and individuals who think in a one-dimensional way. The result is that individuals affiliated with outwardly Islamic organizations, such as the Hojjatiyeh, have been able to impose themselves on all organs, including the mass media, and to strike at the revolution and the Islamic Republic from within in the name of Hezbollah and Islam.

It may seen surprising, but it is a fact that although the treachery of the Bani-Sadrs and the Qotbzadehs has become obvious to everyone, individuals and elements who support these traitors continue to operate extensively in the mass media. By resorting to the weapon of blackmail and slander, not only do they attack the dissenting revolutionary parties and organizations but even the realistic officials and sincere followers of the imam's genuine line. A wing in the Islamic government -- which should be called the superficial and rightist wing opposed to the imam's genuine line -- intentionally is aggravating the situation and prevents implementation of the Constitution's principles, the imam's guidelines and the prosecutor general's 10-point statement. One should not allow the elements of this wing to use our Islamic Republic's mass media as a weapon to distort facts and divert public opinion and consequently undermine the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The second commentary, entitled "Let Us Maintain Honesty in Disseminating the News," states: In a recent meeting with the supervisor and a number of officials of the Islamic Republic News Agency, Imam Khomeyni once again announced certain guidelines to which not only all IRNA employees should devote attention but also all officials who deal with the mass media. The imam said: What is important for a news agency is its quality since one that is close to the truth and truthfulness encourages one to listen. Taking into consideration the current bitter realities of our homeland, the imam of the nation said during this meeting: In the Islamic Republic all the news, especially the news about the war and the way the great governments treat the Iranian nation, should be communicated to the people in all honesty. Yet contrary to our expectation and wish, in most cases not only are the facts concealed from the nation, but efforts are exerted to distort events and fabricate the facts and especially to slander the true friends of the Islamic Republic in the international arena. The blows the opponents and foes of the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line have so far dealt to the Islamic Republic of Iran by blackmail and distorting the facts are recorded in history. These blows have been very fatal, and had it not been for the deep confidence of the nation in the imam of the nation, very likely these blows would have cost the Islamic Republic of Iran very dearly.

Continuing his remarks, the imam warned that today news agencies, press and media, radios and televisions are interested in the affairs of Iran and are all waiting to find something so they can add on to it and distort it to damage the Islamic Republic and divert the people's attention. If we do not devote necessary attention to this guideline of the imam, we will expose the revolution and its gains to danger. The evolution of the Iranian nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution is currently in such a stage that if the Islamic Republic News Agency and our homeland's mass media do not adopt the course the imam has recommended and if the Islamic Government does not undertake a deep and all-out purge in the very sensitive institutions, the revolution's perpetuation and expansion in the popular and anti-imperialist line will be called into question.